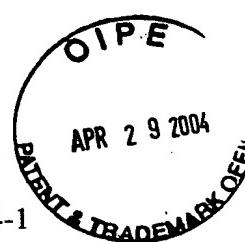


Docket Number: 008312-0305056



PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: T4HW-03S0014-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

SEIGO ITO

Group Art Unit: 2651

Application No.: 10/620,707

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: July 17, 2003

Confirmation No.: 9311

For: INFORMATION RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION APPARATUS, INFORMATION RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION METHOD, AND BROADCAST RECEIVING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference(s) has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached Japanese Communication (Office Action) issued March 23, 2004, i.e. not more than three months ago. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information. Both the Japanese Communication and the English Abstracts are relied upon to satisfy the requirement of a statement of relevance for the attached references.

Please note that Japanese Kokai No. 11-39846 and Japanese Kokai No. 11-66661, are not listed or submitted, as their equivalents, U.S. Patent No. 6,389,223 B1 and European Patent No. 896 469 A2, are listed instead.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Darling 44,482
John P. Darling
for Jeffrey D. Karceski

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Date: April 29, 2004

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Set Number 008312-0305056

<i>Complete if Known</i>	
Application Number	10/620,707
Filing Date	07/17/2003
First Named Inventor	SEIGO ITO
Art Unit	2651
Examiner Name	UNKNOWN
Attorney Docket Number	008312-0305056

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	1	JP 2002-93042	03/29/2002	MIYOSHI	Abstract
	2	JP 2002-140857	05/17/2002	KUBO	Abstract
	3	EP 0 896 469 A2	02/10/1999	KO et al.	X

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.